

Developing Resources for Education in America, Inc. (DREAM)

Organization Description

Founded in 1981, Developing Resources for Education in America, Inc., (DREAM) is one of the nation's premier leaders in substance abuse prevention. DREAM's mission is to promote healthy lifestyles and quality of life through education. DREAM, located in Jackson, Mississippi, provides cutting-edge substance abuse prevention training, and programs and services to various faith-based and community organizations (FBCOs) statewide and nationally.

Project Description

DREAM and its three project partners will implement the Technical Resources Assistance & Networking Services for Faith-based & Community Organizations in Rural Mississippi (TRANSFORM) Project. The TRANSFORM Project will build the organizational capacity of FBCOs in Mississippi by providing intensive training and technical assistance in non-profit capacity-building strategies. These strategies are based on the Mississippi Center for Nonprofit's Standards of Excellence, which are modeled after nationally recognized nonprofit management standards. The TRANSFORM Project will enhance the organizational capacity of new and established FBCOs by enhancing their ability to provide social services, expanding their organizations, diversifying their

funding sources, and assisting them in creating collaborations to better serve those most in need in Mississippi.

Geographic Scope of Project

The State of Mississippi

Partnering Organizations

- The Mississippi Center for Nonprofits
- The Center for Ministry housed at Millsaps College
- The Foundation for the Mid South's Center for Pastoral Excellence

Sub-Awards

TRANSFORM will conduct a competitive sub-awards process to identify 20 FBCOs to receive funding. A total of \$112,723 will be provided in sub-awards. \$5,600 per year will be available to selected organizations. Any FBCO with a current annual operating budget of \$250,000 or less and that currently provides services in one or more of four CCF priority areas (senior citizens; at-risk youth; welfare to work families; and addicts) is eligible to apply for a sub-award and the TRANSFORM Institute.

Project Objectives

1. Provide 10 days of introductory outreach training to a minimum of 500 faith-based and community organizations;
2. Operate a comprehensive

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TRANSFORM Institute to provide a total of 1,200 hours of comprehensive nonprofit management training and technical assistance for 20 FBCOs;

3. Make strategic sub-awards of \$112,723 per year to 20 FBCOs.

Project Strategies

- Training and outreach conferences—including outreach to a minimum of 500 FBCOs to invite them to attend 1 of 5 two-day introductory capacity-building training and technical assistance workshops offered statewide; ongoing nonprofit



Compassion Capital Fund

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management workshops and conferences; peer-to-peer networking; technology assessments; and MCN membership.

- Intensive and sustained training and technical assistance activities—the TRANSFORM Institute will provide 30 hours of intensive T/TA to 20 sub-awardees based on MCN’s Standards of Excellence.
- Capacity-building grants—20 TRANSFORM Institute participants will be eligible to apply for sub-awards up to \$5,600.

Grant Award Amount

\$440,893